

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a proposal seeking World Bank Assistance to the extent of Rs. 263 crores for upgradation of secondary level hospitals. The State Government has been requested to resubmit the proposal with some modifications.

[English]

Posts Reserved for SCs/STs

1353. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts in various departments of the Union Government during 1993 and 1994 which were reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the provisions of the Constitution;

(b) the number of posts lying vacant in these categories during this period; and

(c) the number of posts filled up during this period and the time by which remaining posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) The information is not centrally maintained. However, information regarding the number of backlog vacancies for SC/ST as on 31.3.93 is placed on the table of the House. A Special Recruitment Drive was conducted from July 1993-March 1994 to fill up these vacancies. The result of this Drive is also given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Vacancies for SC/ST in Government of India

	Vacancies as on 31.3.93		Vacancies Filled as on 20.3.1995	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
Group A	687	615	185	121
Group B	556	526	199	129
Group C	5795	6729	3442	3300
Group D	1527	3257	928	1666
Total	8565	11127	4754	5216

[Translation]

Prices of Products of Ordnance Factories

1354. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Defence Ordnance factories charge exorbitant prices for their products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the details of the complaints received by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) Prices charged by Ordnance factories from the armed forces are on a "no profit no loss" basis and from para-military and police forces with a small margin. Observations received from them regarding price calculations are mutually discussed and settled. The prices charged from other customers are based on market conditions. To encourage diversification by ordnance factories waiving of a portion of the overheads is permitted in appropriate cases.

[English]

Ban on Smoking

1355. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce a Bill to ban smoking in public places and offices;

(b) if so, whether number of State Governments are also considering similar measures; and

(c) the State Governments which have introduced this type of legislation so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) The proposed legislation of tobacco includes among other things "ban on smoking in public places".

(b) and (c) Central Legislation once enacted can be adopted by the States through a resolution passed by the State Legislature.

Nuke Test in Asia

1356. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had offered facilities to monitor Nuke Tests in Asia;

(b) if so, whether the US has persuaded India and Pakistan to join the Clinton Administration in its efforts to create a regional arrangement in South Asia not to conduct nuclear tests;

(c) whether as part of this arrangement a verification facility to monitor nuclear testing in the region has been set up in Bangalore;

(d) whether similar facilities are being provided in Pakistan with the assistance of U.S.; and

(e) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a), (b) & (c) In Gauribidanur in Karnataka, the Department of Atomic Energy has been operating a Seismic Station since 1965. As part of evolving an International Monitoring System to detect and identify seismic events, India